



CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE (2006 IBC) PUBLIC PROPOSAL FORM

PLEASE SEE REVERSE FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBMITTING PUBLIC PROPOSALS. PROPOSALS MUST COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

- 1) Indicate the format in which you would like to receive your Public Proposals Monograph (PPM), Report of the Hearing (ROH) and Final Action Agenda (FAA):

☒ Paper ☐ * CD ☐ *Download from ICC Website

(*Note: A paper copy will not be sent to you if you have chosen the CD or Download format.)

- 2) PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY: FORMS WILL BE RETURNED if they contain unreadable information.

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- 3) *Signature: _____ ☒ Signature on File (see over)

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- 4) Cost Impact: Indicate if this Proposal: ☐ will ☐ will not increase the cost of construction.

- 5) Indicate appropriate International Code(s) associated with this Public Proposal – Please use Acronym: _____

IBC

If you have also submitted a separate coordination change to another I-Code, please indicate the code: _____
(See back of this form for list of names and acronyms for the International Codes).

- 6) Revision to: ☒ Section 508.3 ☐ Table _____ ☐ Figure _____

- 7) PROPOSAL Please check appropriate box:

☒ Revise as follows: ☐ Add new text as follows ☐ Delete and substitute as follows: ☐ Delete without Substitution(s):


Show the proposed NEW, REVISED or DELETED TEXT in legislative format: ~~Line through text to be deleted.~~ Underline text to be added.

508.3 Mixed occupancies. Each portion of a building shall be individually classified in accordance with Section 302.1.

Where a building contains more than one occupancy group, the building or portion thereof shall comply with Sections 508.3.1 ~~508.3.2~~, or 508.3.3 or a combination of these sections.

Exceptions:

 1. Occupancies separated in accordance with Section 509.

 2. Where required by Table 415.3.2, areas of Group H-1, H-2 or H-3 occupancies shall be located in a separate and detached building or structure.

508.3.1.3 Separation. ~~No~~ A separation is required between accessory occupancies ~~or~~ and the main occupancy in accordance with Table 508.3.3.

Exception: Group H-2, H-3, H-4 or H-5 occupancies shall be separated from all other occupancies in accordance with Section 508.3.3.

508.3.2 ~~Non-separated occupancies. Buildings or portions of buildings that comply with the provisions of this section~~

shall qualify as nonseparated occupancies. Reserved.

~~508.3.2.1 Occupancy classification. Nonseparated occupancies shall be individually classified in accordance with Section 302.1. Code requirements shall apply to each portion of the building based on the occupancy classification of that space except that the most restrictive applicable provisions of Section 403 and Chapter 9 shall apply to the entire building or portion thereof.~~

~~508.3.2.2 Allowable area and height. The allowable area and height of the building or portion thereof shall be based on the most restrictive allowances for the occupancy groups under consideration for the type of construction of the building in accordance with Section 503.1.~~

~~508.3.2.3 Separation. No separation is required between occupancies.~~

~~Exception: Group H-2, H-3, H-4, or H-5 occupancies shall be separated from all other occupancies in accordance with Section 508.3.3.~~

508.3.3 Separated occupancies. Buildings or portions of buildings that comply with the provisions of this section shall qualify as separated occupancies.

TABLE 508.3.3 REQUIRED SEPARATION OF OCCUPANCIES (HOURS)

OCCUPANCY	A ^e , E		I		R ^d		F-2, U ^d		S-2 ^{c,d} , B ^b , F-1, M ^b , S-1		H-1		H-2		H-3, H-4, H-5	
	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS	S	NS
A ^e , E ^e	N	N	1	2	1	2	N	1	1	2	NP	NP	3	4	2	3 ^a
I	—	—	N	N	1	NP	1	2	1	2	NP	NP	3	NP	2	NP
R ^d	—	—	—	—	N	N	1	2	1	2	NP	NP	3	NP	2	NP
F-2, S-2 ^{c,d} , U ^d	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	N	1	2	NP	NP	3	4	2	3 ^a
B ^b , F-1, M ^b , S-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	N	NP	NP	2	3	1	2 ^a
H-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
H-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	NP	1	NP
H-3, H-4, H-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	N	NP

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m².

S = Buildings equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

NS = Buildings not equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1.

N = No separation requirement.

NP = Not permitted.

a. For Group H-5 occupancies, see Section 903.2.4.2.

b. Occupancy separation need not be provided for storage areas within Groups B and M if the:

1. Area is less than 10 percent of the floor area;
2. Area is equipped with an automatic fire-extinguishing system and is less than 3,000 square feet; or
3. Area is less than 1,000 square feet.

c. Areas used only for private or pleasure vehicles shall be allowed to reduce separation by 1 hour.

d. See Section 406.1.4.

e. Commercial kitchens need not be separated from the restaurant seating areas that they serve.

☐ PROPOSAL *Continued* (Attach additional sheets as necessary)

8) SUPPORTING INFORMATION (State purpose and reason, and provide substantiation to support proposed change):

The purpose of this proposed amendment is to reasonably maintain the current level of fire/life safety provided by the CBC for

buildings containing mixed occupancies by eliminating Section 508.3.2 Nonseparated Occupancies of the 2006 IBC as an acceptable option for addressing buildings containing more than one occupancy classification.

Section 508.3 Mixed Occupancies of the 2006 IBC treats mixed occupancies in buildings very similarly to the CBC with one significant exception. That exception is the nonseparated occupancies provided for in Section 508.3.2 which is proposed to be deleted. Basically, the nonseparated occupancies option allows mixed occupancies in buildings without a requirement that they be separated with fire-resistive construction in the form of fire barrier walls and/or horizontal assemblies.

This amendment removes the option for nonseparated occupancies. If not deleted, Section 508.3.2 (Nonseparated Occupancies) will allow unseparated combinations of different occupancies (except use Group H) to occur in a building of any type of construction (including buildings without automatic sprinklers), when the total building area and height conform to the most restrictive limits for any of the occupancies. It should be noted that Section 302 of the 1997 *Uniform Building Code* (UBC) presently requires mixed occupancies to be separated with fire barriers.

Basing the allowance to omit fire barriers between different uses on complying with the most restrictive code requirements does not address the issue of interior exposure of occupants in less hazardous uses from the more hazardous adjacent uses. It also fails to account for the relative risks posed between use groups with different characteristics (e.g., occupant age, mobility, or density; fire load; hours of operation; etc.). Instead, it assumes that a multiple occupancy building is equivalent to a situation where the most restrictive occupancy is the only use in the building.

For example, Section 508.3.2 does not require fire resistance rated separations between a basement parking garage and a one story day care facility or a theater, or between a storage or factory use and any type of residential building, with or without automatic sprinklers. The minimum fire barrier separations based on Table 508.3.3 for these examples would be 2 hours in unsprinklered buildings and 1 hour in a sprinklered building. If specific combinations of occupancies do not warrant a fire separation, Table 508.3.3 should be appropriately modified, rather than using a blanket exemption that applies to all occupancy combinations, other than those involving Group H which are always required to be fire separated from all other occupancies.



SUPPORTING INFORMATION *Continued* (Attach additional sheets as necessary)